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CLASSIFICATION

COUNTRY East Germany
 TOPIC Neuruppin Airfield
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REPORT NO.

EVALUATION see below

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DATE PREPARED 16 November 1953

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Neuruppin airfield between 18 September and 20 October 1953:

Between 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., MiG-15s made high-altitude flights.

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Between 10:30 a.m. and 10:52 a.m., MiG-15 made a local flight. There was a closed ceiling and it rained intermittently. Between 11:15 a.m. and 11:32 a.m., MiG-15 made a local flight. No other activity was observed at the field.

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No air activity was observed. There was an 8 to 9/10 overcast.

Between 8:30 a.m. and 9:24 a.m., MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s made local flights. There were scattered clouds and a closed

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ceiling after 9 a.m. At 10 a.m. a Li-2 landed. Between 10 a.m. and 10:20 a.m., MiG-15 practiced flying.

Between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., there was air activity including formation flying by elements of two aircraft which had taken off in formation, individual flying in and above the clouds and dives. The dives were made from an altitude of about 2,000 meters at an angle of about 60 degrees. The aircraft pulled out of dive at about 500 meters. Each aircraft practiced three dives and after the last dive would fly a left bank south of the field and then perform two rolls to the right. MiG-15s involved in air activity. The weather was 6 to 8/10 overcast.

In the morning and afternoon, formation flying by elements of two aircraft was practiced. There was a 6 to 8/10 overcast, visibility of about 10 km and it rained intermittently.

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25X1 [] Between 9:45 a.m. and 3 p.m., three individual local flights were made. There was a 3/10 overcast.

25X1 [] Shortly before 10 a.m., one MiG-15 was seen aloft. There was a 2/10 overcast. Between 9:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., air-to-ground firing by Yak-11s was practiced in the area of the Buetz See (lake) southeast of Neuruppin. The aircraft took off to the west, made a left bank and flew to the area southeast of Neuruppin. There they dived from west to east from an altitude of 2,000 to 3,000 meters at an angle of 30 to 40 degrees. The aircraft started firing at an altitude of about 1,000 meters and, as source inferred from the noise, firing was practiced from several weapons. Each aircraft attacked 3 to 4 times. Only one Yak-11 was seen aloft at any given time.

25X1 [] Between 2:40 p.m. and 3:24 p.m., 16 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s fitted with auxiliary fuel tanks practiced formation flying. Within 1 1/2 minutes, aircraft took off in the following order: One flight, 1 individual aircraft, 4 flights. While climbing, the aircraft assembled to 2 squadrons, each squadron consisting of 2 formations of 4 aircraft each. The formation repeatedly crossed over Neuruppin. The aircraft landed in rapid succession in flights and elements of two. The distances and intervals kept by the aircraft showed good flight discipline. Each one formation of four aircraft of the two squadrons flew to the left fore, the other one to the right aft. Between the individual formations of four aircraft each, there was a distance and an interval of about the width of a formation and half a length of a formation of four aircraft respectively. Within the formation of four aircraft, the aircraft kept a distance of about two aircraft lengths and an interval of about two wingspans. The second squadron flew about 500 meters aft and 50 meters below the first squadron.

25X1 [] Air activity observed, including the landing of a formation of aircraft from another field, which was reported previously.

25X1 [] Between 5:30 p.m. and 6:40 p.m., 4 MiG-15s made individual local flights. One aircraft fitted with auxiliary fuel tanks made aerobatics, including rolls, inverted flights, recoveries, and gyro-rolls, at an altitude of 50 to 100 meters. The aerobatics were performed with much skill.

25X1 [] Between 8:40 a.m. and 5:40 p.m., flying by formations of two, three and four aircraft as well as high-altitude flying and some slant approaches were practiced. Six to 8 swept-back jet fighters were continuously seen aloft. There was a 6/10 overcast and visibility of about 10 km.

25X1 [] In the morning and afternoon, flying was practiced by MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s, all of which were fitted with auxiliary fuel tanks. There was a 3 to 4/10 overcast in the morning which increased to 9/10 in the afternoon.

25X1 [] There was no flying. The weather was 2/10 overcast and there was good visibility.

25X1 [] In the morning, 3 Po-2s marked by [] made local flights. There was a 9 to 10/10 overcast and it rained intermittently. 25X1

25X1 Between 12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m., MiG-15 [] was seen aloft.

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25X1 [] Twenty-Four MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s, 5 Yak-11s, 4 Po-2s,
and 1 Li-2 were counted at the field.

25X1 [] Between 8:45 a.m. and 5 p.m., swept-back jet fighters including
25X1 [] practiced
formation flying and diving. There was a 5/10 to 8/10 overcast. After 7 p.m.,
there was firing at towed air sleeves while searchlights were in operation. 25X1
The air sleeves were attacked from both sides.

25X1 [] Between 7:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., there was formation flying and
25X1 [] diving. [] MiG-15s
involved in air activity. There was a 9/10 overcast.

25X1 [] Between 8 a.m. and 1:20 p.m., Po-2s made local flights.
The weather was 9/10 overcast.

25X1 [] There was no air activity.

25X1 [] Between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., there was firing at air sleeves
towed by MiG-15s. One aircraft would take off with the sleeve target fastened
to it on a cable, 100 to 120 meters long. The attacking aircraft would take
off shortly afterwards and both aircraft flew in an easterly direction. At
an altitude of 1,500 to 1,800 meters, the sleeve target was attacked three
or four times with two or three bursts of fire given at each attack, while
the aircraft flew at the same altitude. After each attack, the attacking
aircraft flew past the towing aircraft to the other side, banked and
attacked again. While the attacking aircraft landed after three or four
attacks, the next MiG-15 had already taken off to perform the same practices.
The target-towing aircraft would remain aloft for practices by two MiG-15s,
then would land after releasing the sleeve target over the field. Aircraft
involved in flying included [] a target-towing aircraft, [] 25X1
25X1 [] and three [] MiG-15s as attacking aircraft. At 4 p.m.,
52 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s, 2 Yak-11s and 3 Po-2s were counted at the field.

25X1 [] Between 8:30 a.m. and about 3 p.m., there was air activity, 25X1
including formation flying by elements of twos and flights of three aircraft.
firing at air sleeves and dives. Aircraft involved in flying included 2 MiG-15s

[] The weather was clear and there was ground haze.

25X1 [] Between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., elements of two MiG-15s took
off and practiced diving. The weather was hazy but cloudless.

25X1 [] There was no air activity. The weather was cloudless but very
hazy.

25X1 [] Between 11:30 a.m. and 1:45 p.m., 2 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s made
individual flights. There was morning fog and a 7/10 to 8/10 overcast, with
visibility of about 3 km after 9:30 a.m.

25X1 [] Between 10:45 a.m. and 11:50 a.m., 3 Yak-11s flew wide circles
over the field. There was morning fog which later on dissipated.

25X1 [] No flying was observed. It was foggy.

25X1 [] Between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., MiG-15s [] 25X1
[] made individual local
flights. There was a closed ceiling in the morning and scattered clouds

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at noon. About 3 p.m., 28 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s, 2 Yak-11s and 1 Po-2 were counted at the field. As 52-MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s had been counted on 12 October, [] the aircraft which had formerly arrived from another airfield must have left Neuruppin. As no large formations had been observed taking off, these aircraft probably left in small formations during the usual air activity.

2. Between [] 57-mm AA guns were observed in the AA gun emplacement south of the runway north of Klappgraben.

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3. []

4. [] 40 to 45 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s, [] were observed at the field.

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5. On [] no flying was observed at the field. Between 8 a.m. and noon on [] individual Po-2s practiced flying. About 1 p.m., one MiG-15 made local flights. There was no air activity on []

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[] Comment. According to the present information, the fighter regiment stationed at Neuruppin airfield shows a good status of training. The regiment is equipped with about 28 MiG-15s, and a few Yak-11s and Po-2s. With the fighters from Finow which landed at the field on [] the regiment participated in exercises held by the reinforced 9th Gds Tank Div south of Neustrelitz.

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